

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Pulverulent materials and mixtures thereof, characterised in that they contain comprising one or more surface-modified and structure-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxides wherein the surface-modified and structure-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxide is

(a) a silanated structure-modified silica having alkylsilyl groups of the formula $\text{SiC}_n\text{H}_{2n+1}$ where n=2-18 attached to said silica, and having the following physicochemical properties:

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| BET surface area | 25-400 m ² /g |
| Average primary particle size | 5-50 nm |
| pH value | 3-10 |
| Carbon content | 0.1-25%; or |

(b) a silanized structure-modified silica, which is characterized by having a group attached to said silica, said group being selected from the group consisting of dimethylsilyl and monomethylsilyl, and mixtures thereof, having the following physicochemical data:

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| BET surface area | 25-400 m ² /g |
| Average primary particle size | 5-50 nm |
| pH value | 3-10 |
| Carbon content | 0.1-10% |
| DBP number %: | <200. |

2. (Currently Amended) Method of improving the flowability of pulverulent materials and mixtures thereof, characterised in that there are added comprising adding to the pulverulent materials and mixtures thereof one or more surface-modified and structure-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxides wherein the surface-modified and structure-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxide is

(a) a silanized structure-modified silica having alkylsilyl groups of the formula $\text{SiC}_n\text{H}_{2n+1}$ where n=2-18 attached to said silica, and having the following physicochemical properties:

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| BET surface area | 25-400 m ² /g |
| Average primary particle size | 5-50 nm |
| pH value | 3-10 |
| Carbon content | 0.1-25%; or |

(b) a silanized structure-modified silica, which is characterized by having a group attached to said silica, said group being selected from the group consisting of dimethylsilyl and monomethylsilyl, and mixtures thereof, having the following physicochemical data:

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| BET surface area | 25-400 m ² /g |
| Average primary particle size | 5-50 nm |
| pH value | 3-10 |
| Carbon content | 0.1-10% |
| DBP number %: | <200. |

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter comprising at least one pulverulent material and at least one surface-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxide wherein the surface-modified and structure-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxide is

(a) a silanized structure-modified silica having alkylsilyl groups of the formula SiC_nH_{2n+1} where n=2-18 attached to said silica, and having the following physicochemical properties:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>BET surface area</u> | <u>25-400 m²/g</u> |
| <u>Average primary particle size</u> | <u>5-50 nm</u> |
| <u>pH value</u> | <u>3-10</u> |
| <u>Carbon content</u> | <u>0.1-25%; or</u> |

(b) a silanized structure-modified silica, which is characterized by having a group attached to said silica, said group being selected from the group consisting of dimethylsilyl and monomethylsilyl, and mixtures thereof, having the following physicochemical data:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>BET surface area</u> | <u>25-400 m²/g</u> |
| <u>Average primary particle size</u> | <u>5-50 nm</u> |
| <u>pH value</u> | <u>3-10</u> |
| <u>Carbon content</u> | <u>0.1-10%</u> |
| <u>DBP number %:</u> | <u><200.</u> |

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The composition of matter according to Claim [[5]] 4, wherein said alkylsilyl alkylsilyl groups have the formula SiC_nH_{2n+1} where n is 2-18.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The composition of matter according to Claim [[5]] 4, wherein the alkylsilyl groups are at least one of dimethylsilyl and monomethylsilyl.

9. (Previously Presented) The composition of matter according to Claim 8, wherein the silica has the following physicochemical properties:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>BET surface area</u> | <u>25-400 m²/g</u> |
| <u>Average primary particle size</u> | <u>5-50 nm</u> |
| <u>pH value</u> | <u>3-10</u> |
| <u>Carbon content</u> | <u>0.1-10%</u> |
| <u>DBP number</u> | <u><200%</u> |

10. (Previously Presented) The composition of matter according to Claim 4, wherein the pulverulent material is a member selected from the group consisting of a fat, wax, pharmaceutical, cosmetic, foodstuff, animal feed, agricultural chemical and food supplement.

11. (Previously Presented) The composition of matter according to Claim 4, wherein the pulverulent material is a member selected from the group consisting of :

covering powders, aminosulfonic acid, inorganic salts, aspirin, bath salts, brewer's yeast powder, lead oxides, lead and titanium dioxide, Carbowax 6000, cattle dust, cellulose powder, chilli powder, choline chloride powder, dragee production, fertilisers, egg powder (from egg yolk), egg powder (whole egg), iron sulfate heptahydrate, fat concentrates, fire-extinguishing powders, fish food, feeds, spice mixtures, foundry auxiliaries, gypsum, guar gum, urea (cryst.), urea (prilled), domestic fertilisers, hexamethylenetetramine, HVP (hydrolized vegetable powders), industrial salts, instant drink powders, coffee powder, coffee whiteners, cocoa powder, potato starch, cheese (grated cheese), cheese powder (parmesan), adhesive powders, garlic powder, cooking salt, cosm. covering powders, plastics films, skimmed milk powder, corn starch, malt powder, molasses, melamine resin powder, methionine, milk substitute, milk powder, mineral mixtures, whey powder, monoammonium phosphate, sodium hydrogen carbonate, sodium hydrogen sulfate, sodium perborate, sodium propionate, sheets of paper, paprika powder, pesticides, plant-protecting granules, plant-protecting dusts, polyethylene powder, powdered sugar, pigments, pickling salt, polymers, proxyphylline, powder, powdered rubber, powder coatings, PVC powders, rice starch, roast sugar, inorganic salts in general, scouring powders, sulfur, soap powders, silver halides, sintered metal powders, table salt, disintegrators, wettable powders (plant protection), fruit powders, trace element pre-mixes, S-PVC powders, soup powders, tomato powders, toners, toilet cleaners, powder type fire extinguishers, vitamin pre-mixes, detergents, anhydrous citric acid, fluidised sintered powders, zirconium oxide, citrus powder, onion powder and sugars.

12. (Previously Presented) The composition of matter according to Claim 4, wherein the pulverulent material is a fire-extinguishing powder.

13. (New) Pulverulent materials and mixtures thereof according to Claim 1 wherein the alkylsilyl groups are octylsilyl and/or hexadecylsilyl.

14 . (New) Method of improving the flowability of pulverulent materials and mixtures thereof according to Claim 2,

where said alkylsilyl groups are octylsilyl and/or hexadecylsilyl.